

The Oakley City Council met in regular session on July 17, 2023, in the meeting room at the Oakley City Office, 415 W. 2nd Street, at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Shane Stephenson presided.

Council members present. Leasa Huddle, Russ Kahle, Trevor Mader and Kile Zerr were present; Cheryl Stewart was absent.

City staff present. City Administrator Brock Sloan, Police Chief Daniel Cooper, and City Clerk Leann Hughes.

Others present. Aldo Sibi and Natalie Sibi.

Call to order. Mayor Stephenson called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:04 PM.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s). Zerr moved to approve the minutes of the July 3, 2023, regular meeting, as presented. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15213).

Approval of AP Payment Register(s). Mader moved to approve the July 14, 2023, AP Payment Register for checks dated July 14, 2023, in the amount of \$83,831.55 (Check Nos. 516-521; 50337-50341; and 50350-50387). Kahle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15214).

Zerr moved to approve the July 13, 2023, AP Payment Register for a check dated July 14, 2023, in the amount of \$256.00 (Check No. 162), to be paid out of the Drug Forfeiture Fund. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15215).

Approval of Time Entry Report. Zerr moved to approve the Time Entry Report for June 25, 2023, to July 8, 2023, dated July 12, 2023, for the July 14, 2023, payroll, in the amount of \$72,949.72 for 3,747.76 hours (Check Nos. 17614-17621; ACH Nos. 98020-98083; AP Check Nos. 50346-50349; AP Check Nos. 50342-50345 Voided as damaged; and Wire Nos. 890-893). Mader seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15216).

Citizen Request to Speak. None.

Department Head Reports. None.

NEW DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

Aldo Sibi - Airport. Aldo Sibi noted he has been commuting to Wichita and apologized to Administrator Sloan for not being able to return his call or email, but he thanked Sloan for placing him on the meeting agenda. Sibi provided a handout of Topics to Discuss with the Council and reviewed some of the items, noting he felt there were some things said about him at a previous meeting that he feels are untrue and that he is being discriminated against because of some of the statements. Sibi expressed concern over non-compliance with some rules and regulations and possible other violations. Mayor Stephenson noted the Council would need to consult the City Attorney about some of his concerns and asked, aside from these items, if there was something else he was wanting to address the Council about. Sibi stated he would like to put in a bid if the City is wanting to continue to have an Airport Manager or he would be interested in applying if the City decides to make the position an employee. He also discussed the possibility of renting a hangar for local aircraft maintenance and restoration. Mayor Stephenson noted again that the City Attorney will be consulted concerning statements made in a part of an executive session that was temporarily included in the recording of the meeting on the City's website and apologized to Sibi, noting it was not intentional and was corrected as soon as the City was aware it had happened. Sibi accepted the apology. Stephenson directed Administrator Sloan to check into the terms of the contract with A+ Aviation for the Airport Management Agreement and assured Sibi the Council would put things in motion and keep in contact with him.

Public Water Supply – Annual Water System Assessment. Administrator Sloan noted this assessment is actually a Tri-Annual Report rather than an Annual Report and he reviewed the report with the Council. Mayor Stephenson asked about the status of the Water Treatment Plant Project. Sloan provided a copy of a letter from KDHE stating the City has qualified to apply for a loan, so things are moving forward.

Municipal Pool Closing Date – August 13, 2023. Administrator Sloan reported the pool will be closing on August 13, 2023, due to lack of sufficient help to safely keep the pool open. Sloan noted the City will try to have a dog swim again, after August 13, 2023.

Buffalo Bill Cultural Center – 2nd Annual Fall Festival. Administrator Sloan reported he authorized up to \$5,000.00 to come from the Convention and Tourism Fund to help continue and grow the Fall Festival event, noting this festival replaces the Corn Husking Days hosted in previous years. He asked for formal approval of this promotional event. Kahle moved to approve \$5,000.00 from the Convention and Tourism Fund, Promotions, for the 2nd Annual Fall Festival at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center. Zerr seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15217).

UNFINISHED DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

Preliminary Budget Information. Administrator Sloan reviewed the proposed 2024 Budget with the Council, noting there was an increase in valuation and that he has included a four (4) percent increase for a cost-of-living adjustment, a two (2) percent increase for merit, a twelve (12) percent increase in health insurance and extra funds to cover another Police Officer position. There was discussion of the replacement of radios for the Police Department as well as the Dispatcher Consoles; the cost of the consoles can be paid from the 911 Fund, but not the vehicle radios. Chief Cooper estimated the cost of vehicle radios to be around \$40,000.00. Mayor Stephenson proposed the mill levy for the 2024 budget be increase by 3 mills to cover new radios; the Council agreed.

Resolution 2023-03 – Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate – Co. Clerk. Administrator Sloan reminded the Council the City must pass a resolution if the 2024 Budget is going to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate of 77.900 mills and the Logan, Thomas and Gove County Clerks must be notified by July 20, 2023. Kahle moved to approve Resolution 2023-03 – Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate Notice to County Clerks, with the incorporation of an increase in the proposed mill levy to 86.402. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15218).

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/DISCUSSION:

Brock Sloan, City Administrator. Administrator Sloan reported on several items, including:

- An advertisement has been placed in the Graphic for the sale of the Cornell Lots.
- Sloan reported he received complaints about kids on electric scooters not obeying traffic laws. There was concern expressed that someone could get hurt. Discussion followed. Council member Kahle volunteered to obtain copies of Ordinances from other cities concerning scooters. This will be tabled for further discussion at a later meeting.
- Sloan presented a Certificate of Appreciation for Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes received from the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary.
- Administrator Sloan will be out of the office July 21, 2023 through August 1, 2023.

Leann Hughes, City Clerk. No report.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/DISCUSSION:

Council Member Mader noted he has a lot of questions about the handout received from Aldo Sibi. Mayor Stephenson suggested this be tabled until the Council can meet with the City Attorney; Mader agreed.

Mayor Stephenson encouraged everyone to try to volunteer for fair events to help make it another successful County Fair.

Adjourn. Kahle moved to adjourn the meeting. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15219). Mayor Stephenson adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:51 P.M.

Leann M. Hughes, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The members of the Council acknowledged receipt of a copy of the minutes; said minutes were approved as presented at the August 7, 2023, regular meeting.